

REMARKS/ ARGUMENTS

This application is a national stage filing of a PCT application, No. PCT/EP00/03515, filed in the United States pursuant to 35 USC 371.

Applicants herein have amended specification pages 3, 4, 5, 6-9 and claims 1, 4, 9 and 32 and to reflect handwritten changes made to such claims in the Amended Sheets filed in response to the IPER prior to national stage filing of this application. Note the handwritten renumbering of the claims was not included, pursuant to US practice, nor was the amendments made to add multiple dependencies.

Further, applicants have made amendments to claims 3-6, 8-10, 12-14, 16, 20-22, 24-29, and 34-35 to eliminate multiple dependencies, to reduce costs and to place the claims in better condition for prosecution in the United States Patent Office.

In light of the above preliminary amendments, claims 1-25, and 27- 41 are presented for examination.

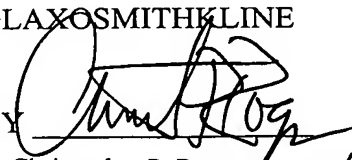
Attached hereto is a marked version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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24 Oct 2001

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the specification

The paragraph beginning at page 3, line 16, was replaced with the following paragraph:

--According to one aspect of the present invention there is provided a carrier comprising an elongate strip having a first portion and a second portion; a fold between said first portion and said second portion such that the first portion contacts the second portion; and a join between the first portion and the second portion, wherein said join and the fold form the edges of a pocket or pouch for containment of ~~product~~ medicament, the pocket or pouch containing a unit dose of medicament therein.

The paragraph beginning at page 3, line 27, was replaced with the following paragraph:

--In another aspect, there is provided a carrier additionally comprising a retainer within the pocket or pouch for retaining ~~product~~ medicament thereon. The retainer is for example, a mesh or sponge.--

The paragraph beginning at page 4, line 10, was replaced with the following paragraph:

--In one aspect, there is provided a carrier comprising at least one further join forming at least one further pocket or pouch for containment of ~~product~~ medicament.--

The paragraph beginning at page 5, line 9, was replaced with the following paragraph:

~~--In a further aspect, there is provided a carrier comprising a medicament therein.~~
Preferably the medicament is in dry powder, tablet, liquid, paste, cream or capsular form. More preferably the medicament is selected from the group consisting of albuterol, salmeterol, ipratropium bromide, fluticasone propionate and beclomethasone dipropionate and salts or solvates thereof and any mixtures thereof.--

The paragraph beginning at page 5, line 21, was replaced with the following paragraph:

--According to a further aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of making a carrier comprising forming a fold between a first portion and second portion of an elongate strip such that the first portion contacts the second portion; forming a join between the first portion and the second portion wherein the join and the fold form the edges of an open pocket or pouch for containment of ~~product~~ medicament; filling the open pocket or pouch with the ~~product~~ unit dose of medicament; and closing the open pocket or pouch by forming a further join.--

The material starting at the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 19, through and including the paragraph beginning page 9, line 16 was deleted.

In the Claims

The claims were amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A carrier comprising an elongate strip having a first portion and a second portion; a fold between said first portion and said second portion such that the first portion contacts the second portion; and a join between the first portion and the second portion, wherein said join and the fold form the edges of a pocket or pouch for containment of ~~product~~ medicament, said pocket or pouch containing a unit dose of medicament therein.
3. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~either of claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein said pocket or pouch comprises contours or ridges therein.
4. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, additionally comprising a retainer within the pocket or pouch for retaining product thereon.
5. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein each of the ends of the elongate strip has a non self-binding adhesive portion.

6. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein each of the ends of the elongate strip has a peelable cover thereon.
8. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~any of claims 5 to 7~~ claim 5, wherein the adhesive portion enables attachment of the carrier to mammalian skin.
9. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, comprising at least one further join forming at least one further pocket or pouch for containment of ~~product~~ medicament.
10. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, wherein the ends of the elongate strip form a pair of pull release tabs.
12. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~either of claims 10 or 11~~ claim 10, wherein each of the pull release tabs has a looped end.
13. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~any of claims 10 to 12~~ claim 10, wherein each of the pull release tabs has at least one perforation therein.
14. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~any of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, additionally comprising a drawstring opening mechanism.
16. (Amended) A carrier in multi-unit form comprising a series arrangement of a plurality of carriers according to ~~any of claims 1 to 15~~ claim 1.
20. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~any one of claims 16 to 19~~ claim 16, wherein each pocket or pouch is foldable to lie flat alongside the elongate strip.
21. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~any claims 1 to 20~~ claim 1, wherein the elongate strip is flexible.

22. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~any of claims 1 to 21~~ claim 1, wherein the elongate strip comprises material selected from the group consisting of metal foil, an organic polymeric material and paper.

24. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 23~~ claim 1, wherein the join is formable by a joining method selected from the group consisting of heat, laser, radio frequency, adhesive, staple, stamp, pressure and ultrasonic sealing.

25. (Amended) A carrier according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 18~~ claim 1, wherein the join is peelable to enable peelable access to the pocket or pouch.

Claim 26 was cancelled.

27. (Amended) A carrier according to claim 1 ~~26~~, wherein said medicament is in dry powder, tablet, liquid, paste, cream or capsular form.

28. (Amended) A carrier according to claim 1 ~~either of claims 26 or 27~~, wherein said medicament is selected from the group consisting of albuterol, salmeterol, ipratropium bromide, fluticasone propionate and beclomethasone dipropionate and salts or solvates thereof and any mixtures thereof.

29. (Amended) An inhalation device comprising a housing in combination with a medicament carrier as claimed in claim 1 ~~any of claims 26 to 28~~.

32. (Amended) A method of making a carrier comprising forming a fold between a first portion and second portion of an elongate strip such that said first portion contacts said second portion; forming a join between said first portion and said second portion wherein said join and the fold form the edges of an open pocket or pouch for containment of medicament product; filling said open pocket or pouch with a unit dose of medicament ~~said product~~; and closing said open pocket or pouch by forming a further join.

34. (Amended) A method of opening a carrier as claimed in claim 10 ~~claims 10 to 28~~ comprising pulling the pair of pull release tabs in order to enable access to the pouch.

35. (Amended) Use of a carrier according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 26 to 28~~, for dispensing medicament.

Claims 42- 89 were cancelled.